

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 208326

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, PA, AR

SUBJECT: YACYRETA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, RODAS ORTIZ

--- VISIT TO U.S.

REF: (A) ASUNCION 3225; (B) BUENOS AIRES 5512

1. ING. RODAS ORTIZ, PARAGUAYAN DIRECTOR GENERAL,
YACYRETA BINATIONAL ENTITY WAS IN WASHINGTON, DC 21-26

AUGUST. MR. RODAS CAME TO WASHINGTON DIRECTLY FROM HIS
HARZA MEETING IN CHICAGO AND WILL BE STOPPING IN
VENEZUELA TO SEE THE GURI HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, AT HARZA'S

SUGGESTION ON HIS WAY BACK TO ASUNCION. DURING PART OF THE
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U.S. VISIT, MR. RODAS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ING. ARMANDO
BORNANCINI, AN ARGENTINE MEMBER OF THE BINATIONAL ENTITY.
MR. BORNANCINI WENT TO SEE THE HYDROELECTRIC PLANTS ON THE
COLUMBIA RIVER AND WAS IN WASHINGTON FOR THE LAST DAY OF

RODAS U.S. VISIT WHICH INCLUDED MEETINGS WITH
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND WORLD BANK.

2. ON AUGUST 25, MR. RODAS MET WITH COMMERCE MEPD AND
EXIMBANK. AT COMMERCE, RODAS SAID THAT HE EXPECTS TO

RECEIVE BIDS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR THE TURBINE/
GENERATORS INCLUDING "EASTERN COUNTRIES". WHEN ASKED
ABOUT THE LIKELY OFFICIAL PARAGUAYAN REACTION TO A
PROPOSAL FROM THE SOVIET UNION, RODAS COMMENTED THAT IT
IS HIS OPINION THAT THE SOVIETS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE
SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE PROJECT BUT NOT AS A PRIME

CONTRACTOR. HE EXPLAINED THAT SINCE PARAGUAY DOES NOT
HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE USSR, THIS
ARRANGEMENT WOULD RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF HAVING TO DEAL

WITH THE SOVIETS DIRECTLY.

3. AT EXIMBANK MR. RODAS BRIEFED THE PARAGUAY/
ARGENTINA LOAN OFFICER AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS ON THE
YACYRETA PROJECT, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUPPLIER
FINANCING AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.

4. THE U.S. CONSORTIUM LEADER, BURNS AND ROE, AND
ALLIS-CHALMERS DID HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH
RODAS AND BORNANCINI WHILE THEY WERE IN WASHINGTON. THE
U.S. FIRMS IN THE CONSORTIUM INVITED RODAS TO VISIT THEIR
MANUFACTURING FACILITIES AND OPERATING HYDRO PLANTS.
BECAUSE OF HIS LIMITED TIME, MR. RODAS HAD TO DECLINE
THESE INVITATIONS, BUT HE PROMISED THAT ON HIS NEXT
VISIT HE WILL ALLOW MORE TIME TO ACCEPT THESE
INVITATIONS. ROBINSON

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